United Nations A/68/393–S/2013/562

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
20 September 2013

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-eighth session
Agenda item 34
Protracted conflicts in the GUAM area and their implications for international peace, security and development

Security Council
Sixty-eighth year

Identical letters dated 19 September 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, dated 17 September 2013, regarding the illegal activities of Russian occupation troops along the occupation line in the Tskhinvali region (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and the annex thereto circulated as a document of the sixty-eighth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 34, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kaha **Imnadze**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

13-48152 (E) 230913

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Annex to the identical letters dated 19 September 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia on the illegal activities of Russian occupation troops along the occupation line in the Tskhinvali region

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia expresses its deep concern over the continuous illegal activities of Russian occupation forces along the occupation line in the Tskhinvali region. Despite numerous calls by the international community, the Russian Federation continues blatant violations of the fundamental principles of international law and commitments undertaken under the 12 August 2008 ceasefire agreement. Since 17 September 2013, the occupation troops have resumed the installation of barbed-wire fences along the occupation line in the Tskhinvali region, in particular the village of Ditsi, Gori district.

The Government of Georgia strictly condemns Russia's illegal actions, which are having a negative impact on the humanitarian situation of the local population and are significantly restricting their internationally recognized rights, including the right to free movement, education in one's native language and other economic, cultural and social rights. Unfortunately, the local population has been deprived of the opportunity to carry out agricultural works as well as of access to cemeteries and emergency medical services.

The critical situation in Georgia's occupied regions and adjacent areas once again underlines the necessity of the establishment of international security and human rights monitoring mechanisms.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia calls upon the international community to adequately assess the current situation in Georgia's occupied territories and to undertake effective measures to avert Russia's illegal activities.

Tbilisi, 17 September 2013